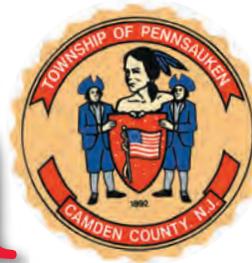


All Around Pennsauken



This holiday season, may you be blessed with Laughter, Peace, Love and Joy!

VOL. 26, NO. 12

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

December 2021

Township Events Bring Holiday Joy To Residents



Santa Claus and friends will join residents for the town's annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Extravaganza on Dec. 8.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken's celebration of the holidays continues with the town's in-person Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Extravaganza, and its Breakfast with Santa.

"We've got a lot of great activities planned for the holiday season; and with the tougher parts of the pandemic behind us, we can get back to in-person events again," said Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. "We can't wait to see you as we celebrate the best time of the year!"

In-Person Tree Lighting And Holiday Light Extravaganza Held On December 8

On Wednesday, Dec. 8, the Township will hold its in-person Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Extravaganza at the Township's Municipal Complex, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.

"We got in touch with Santa Claus at the North Pole. He's got some time to come down to Pennsauken to help us light the Township's tree for the holidays," explained
continued on page 29

Pennsauken's Angel Tree Program Helps Families In Need

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

As the Pennsauken community still deals with the pandemic, a helping hand is needed now more than ever. It's with this continued sense of urgency that the Township has launched its Angel Tree Program for 2021.

"The Angel Tree makes a real difference for Pennsauken families in need. And as we continue to be impacted by COVID-19, we have to be there for these members of our community," explained Elwood "Duke" Martz, Pennsauken's director of municipal services. "With Pennsauken's generosity, families struggling during the holidays receive some special help from their neighbors."

The Angel Tree was started well over 25 years ago. A Christmas tree placed at the Penn Queen Diner allowed both patrons and members of the community to help



Through generous donations from residents, businesses, and local organizations, Pennsauken's Angel Tree Program provides new, unwrapped toys to our neighbors in need during the holidays.

their neighbors in need during the holidays. The success of that endeavor turned

into today's Angel Tree Program, which
continued on page 29

Wawa Opens Newest Store In Pennsauken



Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista and Committeeman Vince Martinez were on hand for the grand opening of the new Super Wawa at 8000 S. Crescent Blvd.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

On Nov. 11, Wawa opened its newest location in Pennsauken. Located at 8000 S. Crescent Blvd., adjacent to Cooper River Park, the store represents the fourth Super Wawa in town.

"In Wawa, it is our mission to fulfill lives every day, so it is our goal to be your all day, every day stop for fresh foods, specialty beverages, coffee, fuel, and of course our free ATMs," said Becky Altemus, director of store operations for Wawa. "With over 900 stores across six states and Washington D.C., we're committed to providing no boundary convenience to our customers, whether it be in our store, or through our
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Look! inside

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Parks and Recreation: x151
Planning and Zoning: x128
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Camden County Municipal Utility Authority (CCMUA): (856) 541-3700

New Jersey American Water: (800) 272-1325

Generous Donation Adds Landscaping To Little Angels Playground

Three years ago, St. Cecilia's Little Angels Preschool and Daycare in Pennsauken was gifted with an amazing, state-of-the-art playground. The person behind that gift was Pennsauken native and St. Cecilia's school alumnus, Bobby Platzer. Mr. Platzer's generosity was inspired by the memory of his mother, Kay Platzer, who was a lifelong volunteer within the community and at St. Cecilia's. The gift continues, as another St. Cecilia alumnus stepped forward to make this playground more beautiful and inviting for the children. Fran Spuhler, president of Kaleidoscope, Inc. in Moorestown, was moved by Mr. Platzer's generosity and offered to donate a tree in Kay Platzer's mem-

ory. Upon return to his hometown and viewing the playground, his vision and generosity grew to create a completely landscaped yard for the children to thrive in.

Mr. Spuhler has planted a variety of trees, the most special, a red oak, as that was Kay Platzer's favorite color, and created an environment full of texture and color for the children to explore.

The children at Little Angels are working on a study of trees last month and were thrilled to discover what had happened in their playground. One child happily stated, "We went to the forest today."

A little imagination and a lot of generosity do go a long way!



St. Cecilia alumnus Fran Spuhler has donated several trees for the playground at Little Angels Preschool and Daycare in Pennsauken.



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PHS Alumni Luncheon Held On December 15

The monthly Pennsauken High School Alumni Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1:00 p.m., at Marco's Restaurant at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.

Reservations are required as space is limited. Call Norma at (856) 220-5597 to reserve a space or for any questions.

Pennsauken Town Watch Meets On December 8

Pennsauken's Town Watch hosts its meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at the second floor of the Pennsauken Township Police Department, 2400 Bethel Ave. This month's meeting is held on Dec. 8.

Come learn how to keep your community safe! For more information, visit the "Pennsauken Town Watch" Facebook Group.

The ICEMAN Goeth

BY GAVIN ROSSNER



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For editorial submissions contact

Frank Sinatra, Editor
856-665-1000 x 127
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Mario Daulerio, Publisher
856-662-5100 • allaroundpenn@aol.com
PO Box 595 • Pennsauken, NJ 08110

MAYOR'S **Reflecting On An Amazing And Rewarding Year As Mayor**

INTERVIEW



By Marco DiBattista,
Mayor of
Pennsauken
Township

My focus as your mayor for 2021 was to work hard every day to make the town the best it could be; to set a standard higher than ever before; and to show our residents how much Pennsauken cares about them. That hard work, that striving for excellence, is paying off.

We've been finalizing the plans for our new library and municipal complex that will reshape our town. This project serves as the foundation to building a true town center, a place where our residents can come to and spend quality time together. An important part of this initiative is the Westfield Ave. taskforce, which is focused on ensuring continued

safety in this section of town. The Singer Building Police Substation, located at 47th St. and Westfield Ave., is being revamped and will soon be staffed with officers who will be there every day to assist our residents and business owners. Working with Police Chief Olivo, we're focused on reducing crime in our town. And as long as I'm around, the safety of those who live, work, and visit Pennsauken will be one of my highest priorities.

We've had a lot of special moments this year, but no more so than our vaccination center last April. Pennsauken was the first municipality in our area to partner with a great organization like CAMCare to help our residents who were struggling to get protected against COVID-19 and couldn't get the vaccine anywhere else. It was a huge success, and

I could not have been more proud with how our municipal team came together to get the job done. We saved lives that day. It's the perfect example of what our town's about: coming up with out-of-the-box solutions to help each other when we need it most.

Another important goal we've been focusing on is enhancing our outdoor spaces. Our renovations of Delaware Gardens Park and the opening of our extremely popular pickleball courts were just the beginning. Pennsauken has recently received a \$500,000 grant for Tippin's Pond that will reshape an already awesome piece of property. We're also moving forward with the transformation of the Pennsauken Skate Park, creating a world class environment for adults and young people to enjoy a non-traditional sport that is

both a fun exercise and a great form of self-expression and individuality. Our ultimate goal is to interconnect as many of our outdoor spaces as possible, allowing Pennsauken residents to get outside, be safe, and enjoy themselves with their family and friends.

This year as mayor has been the most rewarding time of my life. Helping people every day is what being a true public servant is all about. I was born and raised in this great town and could not be more

proud that my wife and I are raising our family here as well. We started this year with indecision about the pandemic, but together, we have navigated through it and are still working to keep things safe for our employees and residents alike. I'm proud to serve the people of Pennsauken and I thank each and every resident for helping make this town the best it's ever been!

Please be safe and have a wonderful holiday season.



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WAGSWORLD The Unprecedented Joy Of Twofers During The Holidays

By Bob Wagner,
AAP Columnist

I just realized why this month has always been my favorite. Not because of the jolly good cheer, the ageless and repetitious music, or even the monster stash of cookies. Because it's all of the above and it starts in Nov. and runs to mid Jan.

Now the whole world, sick and tired of the ever-present COVID consciousness, decided to start my December in October and rushed to be on time for

Thanksgiving. And I not only didn't mind, I welcomed the pre-holiday rush with open arms.

I've been concentrating on carving some holiday decorations for family and friends for a few weeks now. Not only does it put me in a holiday mood, but I also get to make the bride crazy with wood chips and clutter. It's a twofer only a husband can enjoy.

Last year, when I did the honking big Santa, and decided to paint it in the dining room, it gave the family a story that

will live on for generations to come. I can just see the girly girls plopping their little ones down for a sleep before a visit from St. Nick and retelling the "Bert painting a wooden Santa in the dining room, paint on Nana's head and more paint on Nana's rug" story. I may never again come close to fame, but I can only hope.

Adding to my love of the great winter holiday spread, I am officially the doggie day care specialist, as of just this morning. If all goes as planned, Max, the new Labrador puppy, will be showing up workday mornings, and spending quality time here at Casa Wagner. Then, late in the afternoon, Max will head back to his own home, where he can chew on the twins and pee on his own territory.

It has been many years since a puppy lived at my house. Sharp puppy teeth and blood thinners do not go well together, I found out this morning. I look like I came in second in a knife fight. I also remember when I had more energy than a puppy. Now I want to curl up in the doggy cage and take a nap.

I have about finished a new nativity scene and am starting on a moose for my brother-in-law Dan's office. His newest grandson, Jimmy Bob, is affectionately called "the moose," by a few of Dan's cohorts. He has requested a carved moose for some time now, so he can put it up in his office, and yank the chain of both my sister, the nana, and Moose's momma, Kristen. Neither of them cares for the

name, Moose, or for that matter, Jimmy Bob. So, once again, I shoot for a twofer...

Wish me good luck as I wish you all

good health, Happy Holidays (all of them) and may someone get you a twofer for Christmas.

Honoring Pennsauken's Veterans



Members of AMVETS Post 101 and VFW Post 1270 held a Veterans Day service at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month. Thank you to all of our veterans for your service to our country!

Pennsauken Historical Society Holds "Frost On The Pumpkin" Event



Township Committeeman Vince Martinez and family enjoyed hearth cooking at the "Frost on the Pumpkin" event at Pennsauken's historic Griffith Morgan House.

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Some Things Are Better Than Christmas Every Day

By Jolly Old Saint Nicholas,
AKA Santa Claus

Mrs. Claus and I were so thrilled to be able to come back to Pennsauken for the town's 40th annual Holiday Parade. While the weather reminded us of the North Pole rather than New Jersey, seeing all your smiling faces warmed our hearts. We can't wait to join all of you for Pennsauken's Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Extravaganza on Dec. 8 at the Township Municipal Building from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., as well as the Breakfast with... well, me... on

Dec. 11 at the Pennsauken Country Club, beginning at 8:30 a.m. It really is the most wonderful time of the year!

There are bunch of holiday songs where the lyrics state a wish where it could be Christmas every day. While that's a wonderful sentiment, even Santa knows that you have to be careful what you wish for.

The holidays are the favorite time of year for a lot of people, both here in Pennsauken and all over the world, but there's also a lot of stress people put on themselves – sometimes needlessly – to create the “perfect Christmas.” That's a lot

of undue pressure. Now picture if that was 365 days a year! I wouldn't want to even think about that, and you're talking to a guy who delivers toys across the globe in one night.

It's much more realistic to wish for the feelings that Christmas brings about – the really good ones – to stick around past Dec. 25. We could all use a lot more com-

fort and joy, kindness and understanding, peace and love. It's never been about the presents you open by the tree. It's about celebrating a special moment in time where we can all gather together as a community and share the gift of ourselves. I can't think of a better way to live all year round.

So, on behalf of myself, Mrs. Claus, the

elves, Rudolph and all of the reindeer, Frosty the Snowman, as well as Yukon Cornelius – I love that guy – I wish you and yours a joyous holiday season, a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and healthy start to 2022. And while you're at it, maybe take a break from social media. A lot of folks on TikTok are headed straight for the naughty list.

Fire Department Escorts Santa Through Town

The Pennsauken Fire Department is ready to launch “Operation Santa” for the holidays. Starting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4, Santa Claus, escorted by the Pennsauken Township Fire Depart-

ment, will visit every neighborhood in Pennsauken in a single day. Residents are asked to listen for the sirens and air horns from the Fire Department apparatus as Santa is driven around town.



On Dec. 4, the Pennsauken Fire Department will escort Santa Claus throughout town.

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Pennsauken Holds Fifth Annual Holiday Lights Contest

Pennsauken Township would like to recognize the very best in holiday decorations throughout town. As you get ready to do your best Clark Griswold impersonations, there could be a reward for your efforts this year!

A team of light seekers will be dispatched in their Rudolph-drawn sleighs to locate the most impressive expressions of Christmas spirit the town has to offer. To have your decorated home considered for this year's contest, complete the online form located at the Township's web site, twp.pennsauken.nj.us, by Monday, Dec. 13, and your home will be added to the list.

Official judging will occur between the



Pennsauken Township is holding its fifth annual holiday lights contest. To submit your home for consideration, an easy-to-use online form is available at twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

hours of 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Dec. 16 and 17. Each judging team will perform "street view" evaluations of your home for cre-

ativity, holiday spirit, and general appeal. If you don't have the brightest house in town, don't worry; all types of décor will be considered, from nostalgic to Griswold or religious to detailed. All entries are welcome. Several winners will be chosen; these homes will be recognized during Facebook Live videos right before Christmas. All houses considered for this competition will be included in an online list so that residents can enjoy the local light displays.

Help spread the holiday spirit throughout our neighborhoods by decorating your home or visiting those who do, rewarding the efforts of the many Griswolds among us!

O' Christmas Tree...

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

A lot of family traditions include getting a live Christmas tree. And you can definitely find them right here in town.

This time of year, a lot of brick and mortar establishments branch out to sell a variety of live Christmas trees. Such businesses include A&J Landscape Supply and Garden Center, 2955 Haddonfield Rd., (856) 356-2083; as well as the Mower Shop, 7745 Maple Ave, (856) 662-8880.

Penn Florist, 5451 Rt. 38, (856) 662-0088, won't get trees in this year, but they're still offering gorgeous flower arrangements – perfect for your holiday table – and more. Harris Bouquet, 7616 Maple Ave., (856) 662-6553, doesn't have

trees either, but what they do have are a lot of wonderfully decorated mixed greenery wreaths and poinsettia for sale.

Christmas tree lots are also open for business. Unfortunately, the Clements family, who run the lot found on Cove Rd., by Inglesby and Sons Funeral Home, couldn't get enough of the quality trees they offer to open this year. However, the tree lot on Rt. 130 South, by the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, is up and running this season.

Prices vary from place to place, but trees usually start around \$55 or so and work their way up, depending on size and type. Be sure to do your homework, and you'll find the best tree for your need and budget right here in Pennsauken.

Great Places To Grab Sweets And Desserts

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Whether you're headed to Pennsylvania and some homemade pumpkin pie, or have visions of sugarplums dancing in your head, you can't have the holidays without the sweets. There are some local

establishments that can provide some serious help in the dessert department.

At the Penn Queen Diner, located at 7349 North Crescent Blvd., all baking is done right there on the premises on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can order

a variety of cheesecakes, pies, cakes, sheet cakes, and other desserts. For more info or to place an order, give a call at (856) 662-1928. You can also visit PennQueenDiner.com/bakery for ideas.

The Pennsauken-based food truck

Dan's Waffles always offers some unique items for the holidays, including their delicious waffles, special bread puddings, and more. They will also be selling their famous triple coconut cream pies, featured on Food Network's "The Best

Thing I Ever Ate." To place your order, call (856) 566-6650 or contact them through Facebook Messenger at "Dan's Waffles."

Miguelina's Bakery, located at 4928 Westfield Ave., specializes in cakes and pastries inspired by Dominican culture. You can find the bakery on both Facebook and Instagram; and for more information, call (856) 338-0228.

More than two billion candy canes are produced during the Christmas season; some of the best, homemade candy canes are found at the legendary Aunt Charlotte's, located at 5 West Maple Ave. in Merchantville. Shopping at Aunt Charlotte's during the holidays is a tried and true local tradition, as the store is decked with a lot more than boughs of holly. Customer favorites include chocolate covered pretzels, which fly off the shelves this time of year; non pareils, in red and green for the Christmas season; caramel and cashew crabs, made of caramel with cashews or peanuts; and sandwich mints, an Aunt Charlotte's exclusive. If someone on your list has a sweet tooth, this is the place to go. Call (856) 662-0058 for more information or visit AuntCharlottesCandy.com.

continued on page 33

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Thank You For Helping The Pennsauken Lions Club Make A Difference

The Pennsauken Lions Club would like to once again thank all those that supported the Lions during 2021 and helped to shape the lives of so many individuals and families.

While COVID-19 continued to affect our community in ways not imaginable just a year ago, the Pennsauken Lions Club continued to help those most in need in our area.

Thanks to you and your donations, the Lions Clubs of the South Jersey area were

able to support the Food Bank of South Jersey with more donations towards food this year. The Lions Club worked tirelessly by extending this helping hand that helped to feed more needy food insecure persons and families in our community and throughout South Jersey.

Even with the challenges of COVID-19, we have started our traditional screening program that has enabled us to screen more children at local day care centers. Thanks to our dedicated Lions, we have

been able to identify many children with vision and other related eye issues.

We are hopeful that in the coming months we can once again screen children in kindergarten through fourth grade at public and parochial schools throughout Pennsauken and Merchantville. Our goal is to identify children who may have vision or other related eye issues that can affect their learning.

As we come to the traditional year-end holiday season, the Pennsauken

Lions Club wishes everyone in the community a happy, safe and joyous holiday season.

When welcome you to become a Lion, and work with us in helping to make a difference for the betterment of our community. If you are interested in becoming a Lion, we meet on the first Monday of each month at Macaro's Catering & Deli at 6225 Westfield Ave. in Pennsauken, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The Lions follow the CDC's mask and distancing requirements.

For more information about the Lions Club, to donate to our vision screening efforts, or to become a member, consider joining us for one of our in-person meetings or attend one virtually. For details, please follow us on Facebook at "PennsaukenLions" or email us at PennsaukenLionsClub1@gmail.com.

SENIORCORNER Camden County Offers Online Support For Caregivers

By Sonny DiSabato,
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

"Branching Out to Caregivers" is a caregiver support group that provides resources and health caregiving. Held using Zoom, attendees can log on to learn about caregiver stress, legal con-

cerns, respite programs, adult medical day centers, Alzheimer's and dementia education, and much more. This event is presented by the Camden County Commissioners, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior and Disabled Services, and ADRC.

This month's online session is on Tues-

day, Dec. 21. For virtual meeting information, visit www.CamdenCounty.com/Caregivers. To R.S.V.P., contact Erin Small Gabriel at (856) 374-2582 or erin.small@camdencounty.com.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Best wishes for everyone's continued health.



Tip of the Month

Beware of "Package Pirates" during the holidays! Many thieves follow Amazon, UPS and FedEx trucks to steal packages right off of porches. Have your packages delivered to a location where they can be received in person, such as with a neighbor or a relative's house. You can even have it sent to your work, if your employer allows it. Another option is to request that the delivery company hold your package at the closest pick-up facility until you can pick it up in person.

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Stay in the know by following @Shop Merchantville and @Borough of Merchantville on Facebook and Instagram. Town-wide events can be found at www.merchantvillnj.gov.

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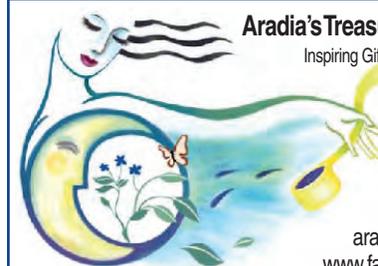
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Pennsauken Kicks Off Holiday Season With Fortieth Annual Parade



For the Pennsauken Township Holiday Parade, turning 40 years old was another special reason to celebrate! Residents lined Westfield Ave. as Pennsauken kicked off the holiday season with fire engines, live entertainment, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!



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It's time for our Annual Toy Collection Drive to benefit the US Marine Corps Toys for Tots! Donations can be dropped off directly to our Office or I can do a contactless pick-up from you. Thank you for your continued support over the years - it is appreciated and always makes a difference!

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Pennsauken
PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,
Department of Public Works

On behalf of the crew of your Public Works Department, I want to begin this article by extending our warmest wishes to our residents, businesses, and their families for the happiest of holidays and a very Happy New Year. As in most businesses, the end of a calendar year is a time where an organization can look back and evaluate its strengths and identify areas

A Year In Review For The Public Works Department

in need of improvement. Similarly, your Public Works Department looks to set new goals for 2022 and build upon the advancements we've made during these challenging two years.

It is no secret that a labor shortage has affected businesses of all types, including restaurants and even trash companies. From the efforts of an "all hands on-deck" situation, everybody from management staff to the repair garage filled

in the gaps to ensure that Pennsauken's trash collection delays were kept to an absolute minimum during this summer's issues. We are beyond grateful that this industry has recovered significantly. Used car prices are sky-high and even Amazon is taking longer than a day to deliver. In a world that seems upside down, I try to look for the consistencies in life. Something as simple as turning on the kitchen sink can be taken for granted without a thought of the hundreds of variables that get that water into your home. As I reflect upon all of this during this sentimental time of year, I'm proud of the work that this department has achieved under the circumstances. The takeaway for the residents and businesses of Pennsauken is simply that we are here for you; no matter the shortage, no matter the urgency, we are always here.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our crews for another year of committed loyalty to our residents through their work.

Due to some retirements earlier this year, the Department of Public Works welcomes two new hires to our staff: Mr. William Trainer and Mr. Jason Carr. I look forward to working with these gentlemen and wish them good luck in a fulfilling career in service to the public.

No Leaf Left Behind

I would be remiss to not mention that Pennsauken's Department of Public Works will continue to pick up large curbside leaf piles until Dec. 31. Residents that choose to bag their leaves can still place them at the curb for Wednesday yard debris pickup by our trash contractor throughout the year. After Jan. 1, we

officially switch our equipment over for winter operations and require the bagging of leaves.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Although I will mention it again in January, live Christmas trees can be placed out on yard debris collection days. The only exception to this is if decorations, lights, tinsel, etc. are left on the tree and/or if the tree is flocked (decorated with artificial snow). This means the tree needs to be placed out for trash on your trash day.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach us at (856) 663-0178, email at publicworks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us or find us on at "Pennsauken Twp. Dept. of Public Works" on Facebook.

TALKIN' TRASH

As of this issue's publication date, there are no "trash holidays" in December or January, as both Christmas and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday. If the facilities where our collected trash and recycling are sent observe these holidays on a weekday (the Friday before or Monday after), Public Works will share information about changes in collection as soon as we receive it.

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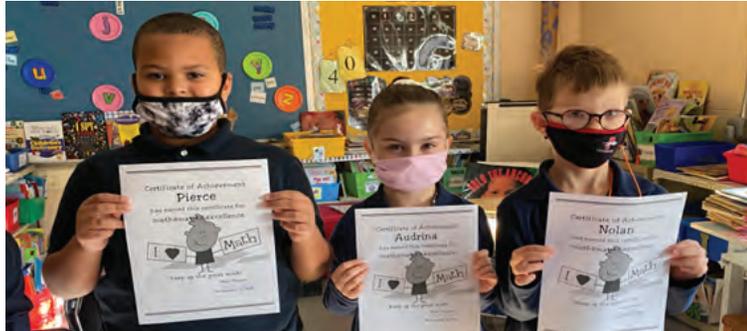


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inSchool

Fabulous Franklin First Graders



Miss Vesper's fabulous first graders are learning addition and subtraction. We also held a sight word bee and had fun looking through our reading books to find more sight words! We are moving along and developing our math and reading skills!

English Honor Society Hosts Book And Craft Night



Pennsauken High School's English Honor Society hosted the Book and Craft Night at Franklin. They read, "Where the Wild Things Are," and even dressed as monsters! Students got to design their very own monsters too! Thank you to all the high schoolers, Ms. Lim, and Ms. Zino for planning this event!

Making Thanksgiving Meals For Those In Need



In Mr. Villari's culinary class at Pennsauken High School, students helped prepare Thanksgiving meals that went to help local families in need. Students Ibrahim and Yeshua assisted in brining turkeys, as well as preparing mashed potatoes, sausage and sage stuffing, and string beans with bacon.

Santa, Hayrides At PHS On December 10

Join us on Friday, Dec. 10 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Pennsauken High School Field House, 800 Hylton Rd. to visit Santa Claus and go on a Holiday Hayride! Admission is completely free; please bring your entire family to take

pictures with Santa and tour our grounds on a hayride adventure. There will also be hot chocolate for anyone interested.

Pennsauken Public Schools prides itself on being a family-oriented school district and we would like to ring in the

holidays with our school families!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all our parents, students, staff, and members of the Pennsauken community!



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Kindergarteners Enjoy Trip To Indian Acres Farm



The kindergarten classes at Franklin went to Indian Acres Farm in Medford during the fall. The children had so much fun picking a pumpkin, learning how pumpkins grow, and enjoying a hayride. Plus, we were able to enjoy the whole farm area to ourselves!

Fun was had by all, as the kids played on the playground equipment and were able to enjoy the fresh fall air.

Phifer Students Visit Home Of The Eagles



Phifer's sixth graders enjoyed touring the home of the Philadelphia Eagles at Lincoln Financial Field. Students spent the day touring the press rooms, club box seats, the Eagles' locker room and so much more. It was a great time had by all!

Phifer Golf Team Ready For The Links



Phifer Middle School's golf team is ready for a hole in one! Students enjoy practicing before hitting the golf course.

Carson Students "See" New Ways To Write



Ms. Santino's kindergarten class recently learned about the five senses. Students had a chance to practice writing sentences using their new sight word, "see."

"Turkey Trouble" At Delair Elementary



Delair Elementary School's first grade students read and discussed the story, "Turkey Trouble." Then they disguised a turkey so it wouldn't be eaten for Thanksgiving dinner! Can you spot the turkey?

Franklin Enjoys Halloween Parade



Franklin held their Halloween Parade on Oct. 28 to avoid the forecast rain. Students dressed up as superheroes, princess, first responders, and so many more. Teachers dressed in the styles of their favorite decades. Fun was had by all!

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Final Chapter Of Improvements In Pennsauken Public Schools

By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, MEd², M.S., M.B.S., M.A.², Ed.D., Ph.D., Superintendent, Pennsauken Public Schools; and the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; JoAnn Young, Vice President; Lisa Eckel; Michael Hurley; Maria James; Diane Johnson; Samer John Jarboub-Rafeh; Scott La Vine; and Orlando Viera

As we approach the end of 2021, we have a lot of accomplishments to be proud of so far this year, we would like focus on the last chapter of improvements for our school district. This final chapter of improvements, which the public will decide on during the referendum vote on December 14, 2021, will complete Pennsauken Public Schools and separate it from other school districts in overall academic offerings, athletic/extracurricular opportunities, and facilities usage.

The following highlights the proposed improvements targeted by the 2021

bond referendum.

Baldwin School

- Four new Pre-K classrooms
- State-of-the-art gymnasium
- Building roof replacement, along with chiller

Phifer Middle School

- Air conditioning throughout the entire building
- Parking lot expansion
- New bus loop and concrete walkway
- Multi-sport outdoor field with scoreboards and exercise area

Pennsauken High School

- Magnet high school with physical and biological science labs
- Second full-size, varsity, multi-sport

athletic turf field

- Wrestling room and multi-purpose gymnasium for all students
- Eight-lane competition swimming pool/natatorium
- Outdoor courtyard/dining area
- Baking classroom in partnership with Puratos Corporation

With these proposed improvements, Pennsauken Public Schools will be able to create a direct kindergarten through 12th grade pathway for our students in our gifted and talented programs; develop a unique baking program with Puratos Corporation, the only one of its kind in the United States; provide a variety of additional academic and athletic opportunities for all of our students; and create elite facilities that benefit the Pennsauken community as a whole.

It is our hope that a student would be able to say they are in culinary arts, joined the marching band, and is a competitive high school swimmer. If a student wants to play ice hockey, be on the crew team, and/or join the swim team, while welding and being in our magnet high school division, all those things will be possible in our school district. If there is a yes vote by our residents on December 14, 2021, all this will be possible in Pennsauken Public Schools.

We are growing and our enrollment numbers will not dictate the opportunities that we can offer to our students. These changes ensure that no matter how much our enrollment expands, every child will receive sufficient opportunity in academics, athletics, and vocational careers.

There is a minimal tax impact for this final referendum. Question one is a \$1.66

a week increase, and Question 2 is a \$1.15 a week; for \$11.04 a month, all these changes will be possible and Pennsauken Public Schools will be complete.

For years, Pennsauken Public Schools had a declining enrollment, and the reputation of our schools was not in a positive light. Our past administrators felt that positive changes were not part of their job description. In five years, our current administration and Board of Education have invested \$52,000,000 in the district and added countless academic, vocational, and athletic programs. Please help us to complete the district and offer opportunities to our children that are numerous and enable their potential to be limitless.

For additional information about the upcoming bond referendum vote, visit Pennsauken.net.

Fire Prevention Week At Carson

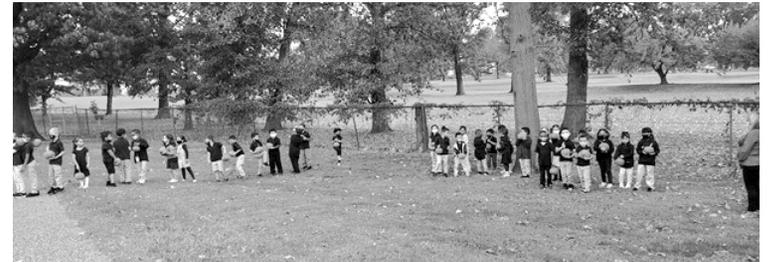
The Pennsauken Fire Department visited Carson School and shared fire prevention safety habits with all our students. The students were engaged and learned about the importance of fire prevention and how to act if they were to ever encounter a fire.

The highlight of the visit was seeing the fire department ladder truck. Thank you to the Pennsauken Fire Department for taking the time to share their knowledge with us and for keeping us safe!

During Fire Prevention Week, members of the Pennsauken Fire Department visited Carson School.



Kindergartners Go Pumpkin Picking



Thanks to teacher Brooke Barbara, Fine kindergartners were able to pick donated pumpkins and not leave the school grounds! Pumpkins were placed like Easter eggs in the backyard grass for our young students to pick and eventually paint in the classroom. Students had a fall-time blast!

Visit our Web Site:
www.pennsauken.net

District Holds Final Meeting For New Bond Referendum Vote

The Board of Education has plans to further enhance Pennsauken Public Schools through "The Final Chapter" of improvements for our residents. On Dec. 14, the Pennsauken community will have the opportunity to vote for vast additions to Baldwin Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood Learning Center; full air conditioning/HVAC replacement and additional site work at Phifer Middle School; the Pennsauken High School Magnet addition and renovations; and the construction of a natatorium at PHS.

An in-person and virtual community forum will be hosted by Dr. Tarchichi and the Board of Education on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7:00 p.m., at Phifer Middle School, 8201 Park Ave., so residents can learn even more about the Pennsauken Public Schools' Bond Referendum. The entire Pennsauken community is invited to attend.

Pre-K Visits Zimmerman's Country Market Polling Places For Bond Referendum Vote



Mrs. Drummonds' Pre-K class had a fun-filled field trip to Zimmerman's Country Market in Sewell, N.J. Students were able to take a hayride, pick their own pumpkins, and enjoy the fresh fall air while playing together on the playground. All of the students were excited to ride the bus, as it was the first time for most of them!

Voting for the Pennsauken School District's 2021 Bond Referendum vote will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 14. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Sample ballots should arrive by mail

Polling Location

Temple Lutheran Church
Working in the Faith Outreach Ministries
Faith Independent Bible Church
Martin Luther Christian School
Pennsauken Municipal Court
Pennsauken Senior Towers
Pennsauken Free Public Library
Homestead Youth Center
Saint Matthew's United Methodist Church
Macaro's Catering
Pennsauken United Methodist Church
MPWC
Circle of Hope Church
Stonegate at St. Stephen's
Cooper River Plaza

prior to the Referendum vote. To view the Referendum Questions in detail, visit Pennsauken.net.

Below is a list of polling locations for the upcoming vote.

Street Address	District #s
5600 N. Rt. 130	1, 11, & 24
550 49th St.	2 & 15
7651 Rogers Ave.	3 & 23
4106 Terrace Ave.	4 & 16
2400 Bethel Ave.	5
8001 Maple Ave.	6
5605 N. Crescent Blvd.	7
4771 Willow Ave.	8 & 10
1665 Derrousse Ave.	9 & 14
6225 Westfield Ave.	12
3559 Pennsylvania Ave.	13, 17 & 18
6751 Westfield Ave.	19
3800 Marlton Pike	20
5101 Stonegate Dr.	21
2400 McClellan Dr.	22

Learning About Family Histories



Delair second graders have been working hard, learning about family history during social studies. Students highlighted their personal histories with a timeline project. They pulled out all the stops to show some of the wonderful things they have done with their families!

Fine Students Enjoy Halloween Parade



For Halloween, Fine students paraded around the halls in costume!

On the Friday before Halloween, Fine students were excited to show off their costumes to friends and teachers.

The weather for an outdoor event was not quite cooperative, but that didn't cancel students' ability to parade. Each grade level paraded through the halls of Fine, making two laps each, while their peers cheered them on from the hallway. In order to do it safely, each grade level walked separately while masked.

Students played some games afterward in their respective rooms and read stories. Fun was had by all!

Carson ELL Students Enjoy Pumpkin Carving



Mrs. Cinalli's ELL classes had a spookily good time carving a pumpkin as part of their fall celebration. They learned that one pumpkin can produce almost 600 seeds! The students will be sure to save some of those seeds to plant in the spring!

Pennsauken Fire Department Visits Fine



Pennsauken's firefighters visited the students at Fine Elementary to talk about fire safety.

In mid-October, Pennsauken firefighters volunteered their time to educate our students on the importance of smoke detectors, fire awareness, and home fire drills.

Students had fun listening and asking questions to multiple Pennsauken fire-

fighters, who were kind enough to spend a day on Gladwyn Ave. One firefighter displayed his uniform, so students would be able to see that they are not space aliens or scary monsters with the suit and oxygen mask.

Over the years during various fire calls, firefighters have noticed that young children sometimes run away from a firefighter who is trying to help them, which can be most dangerous. This presentation helped Fine students realize that there is nothing to be afraid of if they ever are in need of their help.

At the end of the presentation, students were able to go outside and check out the beautiful, shiny fire truck!

Supporting The Fight Against Breast Cancer

On Oct. 22, Benjamin Franklin students and staff wore pink and donated a dollar towards the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Our school has held this fundraiser for several years; and for 2021, we were able to collect \$252! Thank you to all who were able to participate!

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WITH CURRENT CDL CLASS B & REQUIRED P/S Endorsements:

- Must Pass Drug Test
- Background Check



For More Information call 856-662-8502

EDITOR'S DESK The Time Frank Sinatra Almost Burned Down South Philly

EDITOR'S
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,
AAP Editor

This story has been in my back pocket for a few years. I briefly mentioned it in a previous column that one day, it'd be time to share it with you. That time is now.

The following is a true story. It may be slightly embellished for dramatic purposes. It involves some young kids from South Philly, live Christmas trees, and the police.

This is the story of when Frank Sinatra almost burned down South Philadelphia. Well, maybe not exactly. But I did need to get your attention, didn't I?

To be clear, I am not the Frank Sinatra in this story. It's my dad when he was a kid living in a rowhome on 8th and Reed, in the early 1950s. And he's not the only person involved in the incident. There's my Uncle Lou, Dad's younger brother, and several kids from the neighborhood, whose names have never been

mentioned.

It's after Christmas, and South Philly families have begun throwing out their live trees, discarding them by the curb. Now when left to their own devices, neighborhood kids come up with some... interesting ideas on how to entertain themselves, particularly back then. Oftentimes, these ideas are not the smartest things to do. In this case, my father, my uncle, and their friends decided to gather up as many of these trees they could drag and pile them up along a wooden fence in an alley.

This is the moment where things get really good.

Someone, in their infinite wisdom, decided it'd be fun to light these trees on fire. Let's think about that for a second. Dried-up evergreens + wooden fence + fire = a conflagration of epic proportions and a plume of smoke that could be seen from the PSFS Building.

Enter the police, sirens blazing, entering the alleyway in dramatic fashion.

Kids scatter, desperate to avoid the long arm of the law and the longer spoons of their folks. Dad looks around and Uncle Lou is nowhere to be found. He's on his own. There is a narrow route of escape: a small gap between a brick wall and the cop car. Dad makes a break for it. As he squeezes past, the car door begins to open. An officer, his arm outstretched, makes an attempt to apprehend one of the hoodlums, perhaps the ringleader of this band of miscreants. Hoping for the collar of a coat, the officer instead grabs a fistful of air, as my father sprints for

daylight and freedom.

The reason I get a kick out of this story is that my father is the most responsible, stand-up person I know. I cannot picture this man, a highly intelligent mechanical engineer and project manager who dealt with admirals in the U.S. Navy during his career, doing something this crazy. In a way, it's refreshing. We're all human. We've all done things that when we look back at it, we marvel about how we didn't get seriously injured, arrested, or worse, caught by our parents. Plus, notwithstanding the acci-

dental arson and destruction of public property, it's pretty damn funny. And if that's how Dad was a kid, it's nice to know that the apple hasn't fallen far from the tree.

For you and yours, I wish you a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a joyous holiday season. And if you have a real tree and you're ready to take it to the curb, maybe you want to avoid a certain section of Penn Orchard. Just sayin.' And don't worry, Dad. The statute of limitations ran out years ago.



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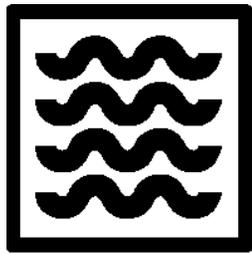
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MPWC WATERLINES

*The Commissioners and staff of The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission would like to wish you a **HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY SEASON!***

Please note that we will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021.

MPWC Water Service Line Inventory Continues Holiday Toy/Gift Drive

The MPWC sincerely appreciates our customers' response to our request for assistance in identifying customer owned portions of the water lines in our service area. If you are not already aware, New Jersey Assembly Bill 5343 requires all water systems to inventory and replace lead service lines. The majority of our service lines are copper. However, we are required to provide an accurate inventory of the various service line types on the customer owned portion of the service for our entire service area.

YOU CAN HELP by informing us of the type of water line coming into your property. If you know what kind of pipes you have (copper, plastic, galvanized steel, lead, etc.) you can call our office and report the information to one of our

customer support representatives. You can also visit our website at MPWC.com for valuable information and pictures to assist you with identifying your water service line and service line type.

If you are unsure, you may schedule an appointment with a service technician, or you can snap a photo of the pipe coming into the property that connects to your water meter. Send your photos, along with your property address, to info@mpwc.com or call us at (856) 663-0043.

We thank you for your ongoing cooperation as we work to meet the state's deadline for confirming our system inventory and continue to provide the best quality water possible.

The MPWC is serving as an official collection site for this year's Pennsauken Angel Tree project, which provides gifts for local families in need. Donations are being collected through Dec. 15 at our Westfield Ave. administration building. New, unwrapped toys and gifts for all ages are appreciated. Monetary donations and gift

cards are also gladly accepted and are used by volunteers to shop for additional gifts, gift wrap, and tape to be provided to families so that they may wrap their own gifts. The support from our community has been tremendous over the years and we thank you for your continued participation!

Did You Know...

Ball Valve



Gate Valve

All main shut off valves and interior plumbing within the property are the customer's responsibility to maintain and repair.

A Reminder To Our Senior And Disabled Customers

With the end of the year quickly approaching, remember to submit your enrollment form for your 2022 discount! Please note that even if you are currently receiving a discount, you must apply EACH year to continue receiving it.

Now is a good time to collect any information you may need for your application. Stop by our Administrative Headquarters on Westfield Avenue in Pennsauken to pick up an application. You may also print a copy of the enrollment form by visiting our website at MPWC.com. Our customer support representatives will be happy to assist you in completing your enrollment form. This form requires your block and lot number, so please bring along a copy of your tax bill.

Meetings of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission are held in person on the second Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m.

The location is the G. Burton German meeting room at the MPWC's Administrative Headquarters, 6751 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08110. The public is invited to attend. For more information, visit our website, MPWC.com

WATER EMERGENCY?

Call 856-663-0044 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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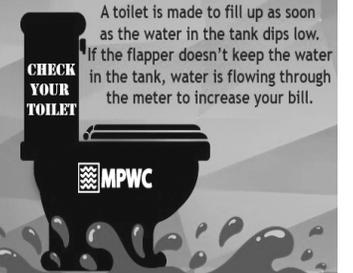
Please provide us with your lease agreement or Closing Disclosure/Settlement Statement to establish your account.

If you're moving out...

Please call our office at (856) 663-0043 to schedule a final reading to be done prior to your moving date or settlement. We need your forwarding address or your title company's contact information to know where to send the final bill.

High water bill?

The toilet's flapper may be the culprit to cause an "invisible leak".



CHECK YOUR TOILET

A toilet is made to fill up as soon as the water in the tank dips low. If the flapper doesn't keep the water in the tank, water is flowing through the meter to increase your bill.

PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

Log onto our website at www.mpwc.com and select the "Pay Your Bill" button right from our homepage.

KEEP INFORMED WITH REVERSE 9-1-1

For members of the community directly affected by water main breaks, we provide messages via our Reverse 9-1-1 notification system. To stay informed of all water emergencies that may occur within our service area, visit MPWC.com/swift911 to sign up for Reverse 9-1-1!

MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 www.mpwc.com

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In the **GARDEN** Flowers, Decorations, And More Make This Time Of Year Special

By Victoria Rose, AAP Columnist

The brisk, cold weather is back as fast as it left. Fuzzy socks and hot cocoa are in full force at our house. Sparking up the fireplace and enjoying a holiday movie in my cozy blanket is just where I want to be this month. As much as I love working outside in the garden, it is a nice break to focus more on the inside of the house.

Some ideas to still enjoy flowers during this month include purchasing some

poinsettias, fresh flowers, or a Christmas cactus. Their lovely colors are sure to bring a warm smile to your face after a long day. If you put up a Christmas tree, you may choose to purchase a live one to decorate. Be sure to provide the tree with plenty of water and secure it to the base properly.

If you enjoy the smell of pine but do not want a live tree, another option is to get a fresh cut wreath for your door or

wall. To bring your outside to life for the holidays, you could add some lights to any evergreens, trees, or bushes you have on your property, as well as place festive signs and decorations – from snowmen to reindeer, as well as jolly ole' Santa – in your now empty garden beds.

Any late falling leaves can be raked up and put out for collection. Any gar-

den decorations you had out during the spring and summer should be brought in to avoid damage from the colder weather. Concrete items and patio furniture can be covered with tarps.

And while I hate to say it, be sure to bring your snow shovels out to an easily accessible location. Before you know it, that first snowflake will fall.

Be sure to enjoy yourself during this last month of the year. Take the time to relax and be fortunate for the big and little things you get to experience every day. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and Happy New Year!

Thank you for taking the time to read my column. Until next time, be kind, be beautiful, and be happy!

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and your Blessing all year through!*



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Lieutenant Horcher Retires From Pennsauken Police Department

Pennsauken Police Chief Phil Olivo and the entire Pennsauken Police Department would like to congratulate Lieutenant John Horcher, Badge #136, on his retirement, effective December 1, 2021.

A Pennsauken native, Lt. Horcher was hired by the Pennsauken Police Department on March 27, 1995, and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Lt. Horcher received many commendations throughout his career. One notable was in 2000, when he was recognized by the Chief of the Ocean City Police when he apprehended the suspect wanted in a high-profile abduction case.

But quite possibly the most important milestone in his career is that while on the job, Horcher met his wife, Barbara, who was working as a dispatcher in town. They have been happily married for 24 years.

Lt. Horcher rose through the ranks of the Pennsauken Police Department. He



Congratulations to Lt. John Horcher, who has retired from the Pennsauken Township Police Department after serving the community for over 26 years.

was promoted to Sergeant on July 1, 2013, and then Lieutenant on May 3, 2020. Lt. Horcher was well respected by the officers under his command for his fair and open command style. He was quick to assist anyone who had a question or needed help.

Lt. John Horcher has faithfully served the residents of Pennsauken for over 26 years. We thank you for your dedication to law enforcement and protecting the residents of Pennsauken Township. We wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

Pennsauken Police Take Illegal Gun Off The Street

On November 23, 2021, Pennsauken Police conducted a motor vehicle stop in the area of 36th and Federal streets. During the stop, Pennsauken Police K9 Xanto hit on the vehicle. Located inside the vehicle was a defaced Sig Sauer P320, with a high capacity magazine. The firearm was fully loaded.

Arrested as a result was a Hector Escalera, age 36, of the unit block of N. 35th St. in Camden City. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



PENNSAUKEN DECEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are held on the second floor of the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. (At the corner of Rt. 130 and Merchantville Ave.)

Township Committee
6:00 p.m. Thurs.,
Dec. 2 and 16

Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:00 p.m. Wed.,
Dec. 1 and 15

Planning Board
6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7 and 28

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*Wishing All A Happy
& Safe Holiday Season!*

Important Customer Information

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewage collection system in our service area. The sanitary sewage collection system is made up of main lines, force mains and pumping stations.

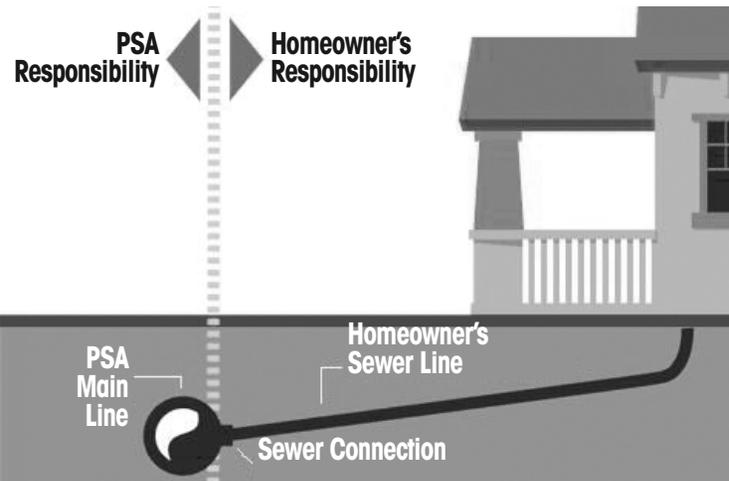
The homeowner owns and therefore is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the lateral line from their dwelling up to and including the connection to the main line.

The rules and regulations of the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority require a

back flow prevention device commonly referred to as a "back check valve" be installed whenever plumbing fixtures are located below street level, such as in the basement. PSA strongly recommends all our customers have a back check valve installed to prevent contamination in the event of a main line stoppage.

The discharge of water collected in a sump pit to the sanitary sewage collection system is prohibited.

Cooking grease poured down the drain can cause a blockage of the lateral line. Please dispose of grease properly.



Think Twice About What You're Flushing

Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and even "flushable" wipes, can't go down the toilet

Please do not flush baby wipes, "flushable" wipes, disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is asking residents to think twice about

what they are flushing down their toilets.

Paper towels, tissues, napkins, disinfectant wipes, and supposedly "flushable" wipes should not be flushed down the toilet.

We are seeing an increase in volume,

which is to be expected given the number of people staying in their homes as part of efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

remains available 24 hours a day to assist residents. We will respond to all requests for assistance and will advise the homeowner of our findings by telephone. If you require assistance call (856) 662-0686.

REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

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If there is a sewer emergency, call the emergency telephone number (856-662-0686) and someone will respond to the call. If you need to contact us for information, you can email customerservice@psewer.com and we will respond in a timely fashion.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.

HEALTHYLIFESTYLES Managing Complications Of Lupus

(Family Features) Many people may recognize the term “lupus” and think of it as an autoimmune disease that can cause joint pain and swelling, but you may not be aware lupus impacts an estimated 1.5 million Americans and can affect many parts of the body.

The disease that causes the immune system to attack its own tissues mainly impacts women, who make up 9 out of 10 lupus patients. Genetics also play a role in lupus; if you have a family mem-



Treatment of kidney swelling and irritation caused by lupus focuses on preventing additional kidney damage. Photo credit: Getty Images.

ber with lupus or another autoimmune disease, you are at greater risk.

Some racial and ethnic groups are also at elevated risk, including those of Black, Asian American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American and Pacific Islander heritage. Additionally, Black, Hispanic/Latino and Asian American lupus patients are more likely to develop complications, including kidney damage, also known as lupus nephritis, and these patients tend to have worse outcomes than white patients.

Lupus nephritis—kidney swelling and irritation caused by lupus—affects up to 60 percent of patients with lupus, according to the American Kidney Fund. It can cause permanent kidney damage, called chronic kidney disease, which can affect your quality of life. People with lupus nephritis also have a higher chance of heart problems, blood vessel problems and developing certain types of cancer.

Symptoms of lupus nephritis include

weight gain, fatigue, joint pain or swelling, muscle pain, fever, high blood pressure and frequent urination. Because some of the symptoms of lupus nephritis can also look like symptoms of other diseases, it's important for lupus patients to talk to their doctors about testing their kidney function regularly. Testing your kidney function involves a urine test to look for protein and a blood test to check for

continued on page 26

Wawa Opens Newest Store In Pennsauken *continued from page 1*

ber with lupus or another autoimmune disease, you are at greater risk.

new access points, where you can ‘Wawa Your Way’ with curbside service and delivery.”

Wawa kicked off its outdoor celebration on Veterans Day with a ceremonial coffee toast to honor those who have served our country in the Armed Forces. Wawa also demonstrated its support of everyday heroes at Stand Down of South Jersey, a non-profit that provides services and products to homeless veterans, along with shelter, meals, clothing, and medical attention, with a \$1,000 check to support their efforts.

“Your donation is greatly appreciated,” said Jack Tennar, chairman of Stand Down of South Jersey. “These funds will go towards the purchase of food and clothing to our homeless veter-

ans and will go a long way towards our efforts.”

As part of the grand opening, Wawa hosted its signature “Hoagies for Heroes” hoagie-building competition between the Pennsauken Township Police Department and Pennsauken Fire Department, to see who can build the most hoagies in three minutes in the traditional “Wawa Way.” Pennsauken’s police officers handily won the contest, and Wawa concluded the competition by presenting checks for \$1,000 to both the Wounded Warrior’s Project and the Pennsauken Firefighters Association.

In addition to being a part of Wawa’s plan of opening 10 new stores in New Jersey, bringing their statewide store count to 270, the grand opening also sig-

nified the ongoing commitment Wawa has to growing in Pennsauken.

“[Pennsauken has] been and will continue to be a vital part of our expansion efforts,” said Altemus. “You have given so much to us and we’re so proud and thankful to be able to give back to you.”

“This place is special to our town,” said Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. “Wawa serves our community at such a high level. So, thank you for all that you do.

“When this project started, I was serving on Planning Board, watching this thing unfold, seeing all of the changes and what Wawa needed to do to make this happen. It’s impressive to say the least. We’re thankful that Wawa is here, and we wish you nothing but the best.”

O’Come Let Us Adore Him!

Mary Queen of All Saints Parish • 4824 Camden Ave., Pennsauken

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

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Pennsauken's Loaves And Fishes Food Pantry Recognized By Camden Diocese

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The Pennsauken-based Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, run out of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish on Camden Ave., has been recognized by the Diocese of Camden for its service to the community. In October, the volunteers' dedication to Catholic Ministry in South Jersey earned the pantry a Bishop's Medal; and last month, Loaves and Fishes' work with the poor and vulnerable was recognized by Catholic Charities' Disciples of Mercy Awards.

"I have such a wonderful group of volunteers who work with me," explained Mary McGinley, the longtime Pennsauken resident who has been coordinating the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry for the past 20 years. "The pantry wouldn't be here without them. They do it with

a giving heart."

McGinley explained that the pantry averages about 45 families a week. The clientele consists mainly of the working poor, people who go paycheck to paycheck and just need a little extra help, particularly when something unexpected comes up.

"One bad week can be the difference from getting your car fixed or having a meal," said McGinley. "When these people just can't make it, they come to us. Families can last three to four weeks on what we give them."

In addition to working with the Food Bank of South Jersey, volunteers collect food from both Aldi Food Store and Rastelli Market Fresh in Marlton, as well as the Target on Rt. 73 in Voorhees. They fill a van with approximately 1,500

pounds of food, including fresh produce, quality meats, pastries, bread, and specialty frozen foods. In addition, parishioners, as well as individuals who have "adopted" the pantry, fill baskets with personal donations. On Thursdays and Fridays, several different groups sort donated items, check expiration dates, and set up meat and dairy refrigerators. On Saturday mornings, the actual distribution begins, with additional volunteers handing out pre-packaged boxes of non-perishable food, along with meat and dairy items. From stocking the shelves to handling the substantial amount of paperwork, the work of a few truly impacts so many in need.

"It is a full-time crew working all these jobs," explained McGinley. "The people who work at the pantry are so committed. They're both adults and young people. I have seniors who have been involved for 10 years. The kids who only have to do 15 hours of community service are giving me more than that. It's unbelievable; it's what makes the pantry as successful as it is."

"I have been amazed and humbled by the organizational skills of Mary McGinley and the core team of volunteers who are able to do this every week throughout the year," said Fr. Ed Friel, pastor, Mary Queen of All Saints Parish. "What is more important is their dedication to

those who come for the food each week. There is always a compassionate, respectful approach to each family."

To learn how to donate to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry or to sign up as a volunteer, contact the Mary Queen of All Saints parish office at (856) 662-2721 during normal business hours.

For advertising rates and information call 856-662-5100 or email allaroundpenn@aol.com

Local Food Pantries Helping Those In Need

The following is a list of food pantries in Pennsauken and Merchantville that regularly assist local families in need:

- Circle of Hope (food delivered to an individual's home); every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 320-8230
- Gates of Praise, 6345 Wisteria Ave.; every second and fourth Friday, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; (856) 473-5417
- First Presbyterian Church of Merchantville, 10 W. Maple Ave.; Dec. 5 and 19, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.; (856) 662-6252
- Martin Luther Chapel, 4100 Terrace Ave.; every second Wednesday, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; (856) 665-0116

- Mary Queen of All Saints, 4824 Camden Ave.; every Saturday, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (856) 662-2721
- Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd.; every first Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 662-8500
- Saint Matthew's Methodist Church, 1665 Derosse Ave.; every third Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 662-3610
- Serenity Christian Worship Center, 3555 Haddonfield Rd. - Suite B; every third Friday, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and every second Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 330-4915

- Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Rt. 130; every fourth Saturday, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.; (856) 663-7783
- World Harvest Christian Center, 7201 Westfield Ave.; every other Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 389-9191

Volunteers, as well as food and financial donations, are greatly appreciated by these organizations; to do so, please reach out using the contact information provided in this article.

Para obtener esta lista en español, visite www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/local-food-pantries.

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Or, if you are more comfortable, we encourage you to visit our main offices: 700 Cinnaminson Ave, Building B, Palmyra NJ, 08065 We accept walk-in applications M-F between 9 AM - 3 PM to fill out an application. Also you can call Danielle Hollis @ 856-735-1015, or email resume to jpera@qmainc.com QMA is an equal opportunity employer. (mention this ad)

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FOODADVENTURES Good, Fast Takeout At No. 1 Chinese Restaurant On Westfield

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

For this edition of Food Adventures, I found myself on Westfield Ave. and No.1 Chinese Restaurant. I recruited my mom and dad to be my taste testers for this visit and relied on their candor for all things, especially food.

Ordering, as with most Chinese take-out joints, was quick and easy. Food was ready in about 20 minutes. We ordered a variety of dishes. My dad got the Happy Family dish because it's a perfect combination of many proteins and he generally enjoys the flavor. Dad really enjoyed it and his platter came with a good serving

Local Sweepstakes Winner's Food Bank Donation Is In The Can

The Food Bank of South Jersey recently received a big bean-boost, thanks to the winner of a national sweepstakes aimed at members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.



Hart

In conjunction with the Academy's annual conference, members were invited to enter a national sweepstakes entitled, "Feed Your Community. Feed Your Family." Sponsored by canned-beans.org on behalf of Bush Brothers & Company, the sweepstakes awarded a pallet of canned beans to the winner's chosen food pantry. This generous donation provides the foundation for more than 1,200 nutritious family meals for local residents.

"I chose the Food Bank of South Jersey because I know first-hand that they do great work and play an integral role helping to feed our neighbors," said Shanna Hart, the sweepstakes winner. "As a community nutrition educator, I can tell you that there are so many benefits to eating canned beans. They are delicious, nutritious, and extremely affordable. I'm so pleased to share this sweepstakes prize!"

The randomly selected sweepstakes winner also happens to be the Health and Wellness Lead Educator for the Food Bank of South Jersey, making her contribution deeply personal.

The Food Bank of South Jersey is always accepting donations from the community. For more information on how to make a donation, visit: foodbanksj.org.

size of food. He said he would eat this dish again.

My mother ordered shrimp with vegetables. She ordered the smaller size, which came with a side of white rice. If you are hungry, definitely opt for the larger portion. Mom wasn't a fan of this dish. The veggies and shrimp were cooked well, but it was a little lacking in the flavor department. This wasn't something she'd think about ordering again. We did get a side of shrimp fried rice, which she did enjoy.

I ordered the extra spicy Kung Pao shrimp. This was the first time I requested extra spice at a Chinese takeout spot, and they actually delivered some heat. I was a big fan. They got brownie points for

that. The wonton soup was also really good. It wasn't overly salty, which you can often find in takeout soups like this. My parents enjoyed this too and you got a TON of wontons.

If you're really in the mood for some Chinese takeout, No. 1 Chinese Restaurant is an option that does the trick. They're local, quick, follow COVID safety guidelines at pick up, and are very decently priced. I know that when it comes to takeout, we all have our favorite/go-to local spot for good takeout fare but it's worth taking a trip to No. 1 Chinese Restaurant and seeing for yourself. Trying something new is important for any foodie, so remember to enjoy

your Food Adventures.

No. 1 Chinese Restaurant is located at 6231 Westfield Ave. in Pennsauken. Their hours are 11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 10:30 p.m. on Sunday. To order, call (856) 663-8812 or (856) 663-8923.

Make sure to join my Facebook page, "AAP Food Adventures," or my Instagram @AAPFoodAdventures, to tell me where your favorite food spot is



No.1 Chinese Restaurant, located at 6231 Westfield Ave., is a good choice for quick, tasty takeout.



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FRIENDS of the LIBRARY Things Are Looking Up For The Friends In 2022

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

Beginning in January, the library will be opening to groups once again, so we can begin hosting some of the Friends events we all missed for so long!

We plan to begin our regular monthly get-togethers of Munch and a Movie. These popular sessions allow you to bring along a lunch while we supply a snack and a first-rate movie. As always, licensing regulations don't allow us to divulge the name of the movie, but you can find out by calling the library's circulation desk. But don't do it just yet. We'll have all the details ready for January when we

plan to begin. So far, each session will take place on the third Tuesday of the month from noon till 3:00 p.m., but we'll finalize all that by next month.

Also in January are eight more sessions of Chair Yoga, this time in person. YAY! We're finalizing the dates with our favorite instructor, Michelle Carlino, and will give everyone the who, what, when and where in next month's All Around Pennsauken. If you sat in on our earlier Zoom sessions, you managed to stay limber; but won't it be fun being back in person instead of on a small screen?

In April, we'll be holding our annual Art Show and Sale once again. So, all you

artists out there, start planning what project you'll submit for the show. Photography, oils, charcoal, watercolor, sculpture, and other media are eligible to enter. More details on the way.

The Friends are also in the planning stages for a wine tasting and art auction

fundraiser in June. Our first one two years ago was a great success. And we plan to be back with a bigger and better format. You'll hear all about it in this space.

We're excited to be getting back into the swing of things again and hope you are as well. In the meantime, we want to

thank everyone who has supported us through this difficult year. We truly appreciate your kindness and wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season with family and friends. Things are definitely looking up, so here's hoping 2022 is a bang-up year for all of us!

Managing Complications Of Lupus continued from page 23

waste products in your blood.

If you are diagnosed with lupus nephritis, it is important you see a kidney doctor, called a nephrologist. Treatment for lupus nephritis focuses on preventing additional kidney damage. It's also important to recognize lupus nephritis can impact your mental health, too. These tips from the American Kidney Fund can help you navigate your care and cope with lupus nephritis:

- Ensure your kidney function is tested regularly and you are referred to a nephrologist.
- Keep records of your symptoms, tests and test results so you can share them

with your doctors in detail.

- Consider medication to lower your blood pressure, if directed by your health care provider, which can help lower the amount protein in your urine.
- Write down questions you have for your doctor and bring them to your next visit.
- Take notes on what your doctor says during your visits.
- Find healthy ways to cope, such as meditating, journaling, or exercising.
- Take a diuretic, or water pill, if directed by your health care provider, to help rid your body of extra fluid, which can raise your blood pressure and cause strain on your heart.

- Talk to a professional, such as a mental health therapist, counselor or social worker, to help understand and process emotions, improve coping skills and advocate for your needs.
- Join a support group to connect with others who have similar experiences.
- Ask your doctor for handouts or suggestions for where you can go for more information.
- Don't be afraid to get a second opinion if you feel your doctor is not taking your concerns seriously.

To learn more and find resources to help cope with lupus nephritis, visit KidneyFund.org/lupus.

County Offering COVID-19 Boosters To All Adults

The Camden County Health Hub is now administering boosters to everyone, regardless of prior health qualifiers.

The Health Hub offers boosters for all three COVID-19 vaccines and operates from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

All boosters, including Moderna, Pfizer and J&J, will be offered onsite for free during the hours of operation by appointment only.

With a change in the weather and residents going indoors, daily cases continue to rise steadily; those who are fully vacci-

nated have a much lower chance of having adverse side effects from the virus.

Camden County residents can make an appointment for their first or second dose or their booster shot at the Camden County Health Hub by visiting CamdenCountyVaccine.com.



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For additional information, please visit our website: mereminskyfamilydental.com.



GRAYMATTERS

An Old Year Ends, A New Year Of Opportunity Awaits

By Judith Kristen,
AAP Columnist

Well, here you are and here I am, in the last month of the year 2021. I'm embracing it. How about you?

How are you doing with the thought of this month? Did it come too fast or too slow? Was it a joy ride to get here? A bumpy one? Or a little bit of both?

We're now only a few weeks away from where all this retrospect will be left as a part of our own personal history. The very second that beautiful Waterford Crystal ball drops from far above Times Square, the fireworks will start, and millions of people the world over will welcome in the year 2022 in their own way.

Some will hug and kiss, some will marry at midnight right on the dot, and others will simply cry for the joy and the blessings of life, love, and spirit.

There will also be others who will cry from the lack of genuine joy, for regret, and missed opportunities, and yet still be-

lieve in the blessings of life, love, and spirit, which is and always will be a wonderful way to ring in every day, not just New Year's Day.

So, in this perfectly imperfect world of ours, may that hope, joy, and wonder that we find in those brief moments when we count down to our newest year, stay with us a whole lot longer this time. Hey! How about all year?

Let the resolutions become revolutions against old, time-worn ways. I assure you it will be worth it.

Not all positive change feels positive in the beginning, but it will grow on you – and with you. I promise.

Peace and love and all good things to you, my friends.

Love,
~Judy



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valid NJ Driver's License. All applications are due in a sealed envelope and delivered to the attention of Human Resources, Township of Pennsauken, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, NJ 08110 by the deadlines specified in the online job descriptions.

Interested parties can find out each open position, as well as download an application, by visiting: www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/jobs-bids

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Meet Our Dedicated Staff

Robert Condon

NJ License No. 5153 PA License No. FD-138937

Robert was born and raised in Folcroft, PA where he attended Academy Park High School and played football before graduating in 2003. He then attended Penn State before transferring to Mercer County Community College where he majored in Funeral Service. He received his PA funeral directors license in 2012 and his NJ funeral directors license in 2017. Robert is an avid Philadelphia sports fan and plays in many different ice and roller hockey leagues. He is also a parishioner at St. Stephen's and St. Peter's church in Merchantville.

Robert currently works as a full-time funeral director with Kevin M. Lyons Funeral Service in Glenolden, PA but also assists us when needed.

Robert currently resides in Pennsauken with his wife Ashley, who is also a funeral director with us, and his children Robert Edward Condon IV and Anastasia Rose Condon.



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Township Events Bring Holiday Joy To Residents *continued from page 1*

Mayor DiBattista. "Saint Nick, Mrs. Claus, and some of their friends will be able to stay and greet residents, as they enjoy a fun and entertaining light display."

At 6:00 p.m., Santa Claus will arrive via fire engine to light the tree. In addition to seeing Jolly Ole' Saint Nicholas, kids can also drop off their letters to Santa that evening in a special mailbox set up on site. Mr. Claus will read some of these notes in a special video that will be shared later in the month on Pennsauken Television's YouTube channel and via social media.

Through 9:00 p.m., attendees will be able to walk around the light display on the municipal grounds, enjoy perform-

ances from the PHS Choir and the Eagles Pep Band, and purchase refreshments from food trucks. Residents also have the option of driving through the municipal parking lot to view decorated fire engines, police cars, municipal vehicles, and more.

The Township will be accepting new, unwrapped toys during the event for the annual Angel Tree program, which helps local families in need during the holidays.

Breakfast With Santa

Children have an opportunity to join Santa Claus for breakfast, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at its new lo-

cation of the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.

"We're bringing back our annual Breakfast Santa bigger and better than ever before," said Mayor DiBattista. "Not only will families get a great meal, but kids will also be able to tell Santa Claus what they want for Christmas."

In addition, there will be face painting, music, balloon sculpting and gifts. Tickets are \$10 per person. The event is sponsored in part by the Pennsauken Education Association.

All tickets must be purchased in advance. Based on demand, there is the possibility of a second breakfast with

Santa Claus to be added on Sunday, Dec. 12. For more information, call (856) 665-1000 ext. 104 or email emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

For more holiday events, including Pennsauken's Holiday Home Decorating Contest, visit pages 6 and 33 of this issue.

Pennsauken's Angel Tree Program Helping More Families In Need Than Ever

continued from page 1

hopes to help dozens of families this year.

"Pennsauken residents really go above and beyond when it comes to helping our neighbors," added Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. "Any donation you can give, even if it's only a little, will go a long way to help us make the holidays special for families that are facing tough times."

How Residents Can Help

Individuals can purchase a new, unwrapped toy and leave it at the Pennsauken Township Municipal Building, Rt.

130 and Merchantville Ave., during normal business hours now through 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 17. Toys are also being collected at the MPWC, 6751 Westfield Ave., now through Wednesday, Dec. 15. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.

Toys will also be collected during the Township's Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Extravaganza, held at Pennsauken's Municipal Building on Wednesday, Dec. 8, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For more information, or to volunteer for the Angel Tree Program, call (856) 665-1000, ext. 104 or e-mail emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

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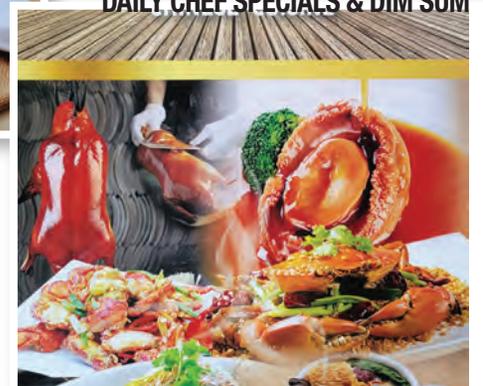


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Pepsi Rolling Remembrance Makes A Stop In Pennsauken

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

As part of the Pepsi Rolling Remembrance program, a special American Flag – one that first flew in a UH-60M Blackhawk Helicopter over Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom – traveled over 8,000 miles, including a stop in Pennsauken last month.

“We’re here today to recognize and appreciate veterans within our community and our company,” said Michele Auerbach, senior franchise development manager for Pepsi Company. “Rolling Remembrance has partnered with the Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation, which provides scholarships to children who lost a parent in the line of duty.”

To date, this initiative raised over \$1.2 million in the last six years and awarded 42 college scholarships. During the event



A special American flag made its way to Pennsauken as part of Pepsi's initiative to support veterans and their families.

in Pennsauken, an additional \$10,000 was donated to the non-profit.

“It means a tremendous amount for our companies to support Rolling Remembrance,” said Reginald Goins, president and COO, Honickman Companies, which includes Pepsi Company Bottling Company of New York and Pepsi National Brand Beverages in New Jersey. “We have long looked for a really great opportunity to honor our veterans. We find no better way to do that than by providing funds and support for the children

of fallen veterans.”

As the American Flag made its way to its final stop in New York, Officers Robert Carey and Eric Kuppler of the Pennsauken Township Police Department, both of whom are combat veterans, provided an escort through town.

“Any time that we can help a company that wants to help out our brothers and sisters who gave the ultimate sacrifice and their families, we’ll jump on it,” said Carey.

For more information on Rolling Remembrance, visit: <https://www.fallenpatriots.org/r-r>.

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We're The Millers: Steve And Gloria Tie The Knot



Congratulations to the new Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Gloria Miller! Steve, a member of the Pennsauken Fire Department's EMS division and a 2016 graduate of Pennsauken High School, married Gloria, the love of his life, during a sunset beach wedding in Wildwood last month!



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PENNSAUKEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The staff and board of the Pennsauken Free Public Library are heartbroken to share the news that Stephanie D'Angelico, our beloved colleague of 25 years, has died after a years-long battle with cancer. She bore it all with grace, good humor, and determination.

Over the course of her career at The Pennsauken Free Public Library, Stephanie held a number of roles, making herself indispensable to the smooth running of the library and a treasure to her coworkers. Over the years, she worked as our Head of Reference, Systems Librarian, and Interim Director at least three times.

None of this captures what a delight she was to work with and to befriend. Stephanie knew everything about how

Remembering Stephanie D'Angelico

the library works and was everyone's go-to person whenever any of us had a question about some nitty gritty detail, from how to get the staff entrance door to lock if it wasn't co-operating, to the trick to get paper towels out of the dispenser in one piece. When faced with a dilemma, we can always find a good solution by asking ourselves, "What would Steph do?"

Stephanie noticed things and would act to improve them immediately. She knew before you did that the Kleenex box on your desk was running low and would quietly replace it. She knew by name every patron who walked through our doors, and would check in with our most devoted readers to let them know when a new book by their favorite authors was



D'Angelico

coming in. During the worst days of the pandemic, she reached out to many of our most vulnerable patrons to make sure they were not dangerously isolated.

Stephanie was generous, almost to a fault, but you could never tell her no because it brought her so much joy to make someone else's day better. She quietly added extra money to gifts and donations, and always included everyone in traditions, like treating the entire staff to delicious takeout from Montegrillo's, especially on days when her favorite of their dishes, seafood bisque soup, was available as a special. She didn't just treat everyone; she made sure to customize the order to accommodate everyone's nutritional needs and allergies.

Stephanie was the type of colleague you could call any time, day or night, with technology questions. During one of her several stints as Interim Director, she often had to field calls from our security

company in the middle of the night when one of our alarms went off for some reason. The scope of her technological expertise made her an excellent and patient teacher to so many of us who found technology upgrades daunting or scary. For decades, "Call Stephanie!" had been our immediate response to internet outages, unintelligible printer error codes, or new software going haywire.

Stephanie was the essence of public service: competent, kind, and dedicated. Nobody cared as much as Stephanie did, about everything. She was also a lot of fun and was possessed of a zingy wit. She proudly celebrated the successes of her beloved New York Yankees, a gutsy thing to do here deep in Phillies country, and it was a mark of how universally adored

PENNSAUKEN LIBRARY

856-665-5959

www.pennsaukenlibrary.org

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday - Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: CLOSED

The Pennsauken Free Public Library will be closed on both Christmas Eve and Day (Dec. 24 and 25), as well as New Year's Eve and Day (Dec. 31 and Jan. 1).

she was that no one would dream of hassling her about the posters and memorabilia showcased in her office.

Her combination of professionalism, deep care, and open heart made her the kind of person we all feel incredibly fortunate to have known and loved. We miss her so much.

We love you, Steph. You were one of a kind.

December Library Events

Please note, at all library events held in person, all patrons ages 2 and over will be expected to follow all current COVID-19 policies, including mask wearing at all times and social distancing when applicable.

- DIY Craft Workshop: Hand Painted Snowman Mug – Saturday, Dec. 4, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For teens and adults. Challenge your painting skills by creating your own hand-painted snowman mug. Advance registration is required: tinyurl.com/pfplworkshops. A \$5 registration fee is also required to confirm your spot in the class.
- Animal Crossing "Isle of PL" Open Play Hours – Monday, Dec. 6; 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The "Isle of PL" welcomes Animal Crossing New Horizons players of all ages! To visit, add the PFPL's Nintendo Friend Code, SW-3902-1262-4235; then once playing, visit your airport, and select "visit through online play" to find us. Note: A Nintendo Online subscription is required for online play. For questions, contact youthservices@pennsaukenlibrary.org or (856) 665-5959 ext. 6.
- Preschool Storytime – Tuesdays, Dec. 7, 14, & 21; 11:00 a.m. Join Miss Susan and Miss Sabrina for virtual, interactive story time fun, live via Zoom! Online registration is required at Pennsauken-Library.org. For children ages 3+ and their caregivers.
- Yoga Storytime – Thursday, Dec. 30; 11:00 a.m. Explore stories through movement with Ms. Sabrina! Work on developing balance, spatial awareness,

flexibility, and mindfulness. Please bring your own yoga mat or towel. Advance registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department to register.

- Evening Storytime – Wednesday, Dec. 15; 6:00 p.m. Join Miss Susan and YS librarian Heather for a family-friendly, in-person, and indoor evening storytime celebrating National Native American

Heritage Month. Space is limited and advance registration is required. Please contact Youth Services to register.

- Take and Make Tuesdays – Tuesdays, Dec. 14 & 28; During regular hours. Stop by our Youth Services Department for free crafts that you can take with you and make at home! Available while supplies last.

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Woman's Club Reads To Baldwin Students

To celebrate Veterans Day, members of the Merchantville Woman's Club visited Baldwin School. They were first greeted by the children, who sang a great rendition of "You're A Grand Old Flag" and a rousing flag salute. Students then

broke off into individual class groups, and Woman's Club members read patriotic stories and shared their personal experiences. The children also spoke about members of their family in the military. It was a wonderful day for all!



Members of the Merchantville Woman's Club visited Baldwin School. Pictured here are Baldwin Principal Dana Gery, Maryann Snyder, Marleen O'Donnell, Diane Sinatra, Josie Davis, Jean Figueroa, and Suzie Wagner.

DEATH NOTICES

Remembering "Rusty" Robinson, Pennsauken Native

Pennsauken native Willie "Rusty" Robinson passed away on November 12, 2021, after a hard battle with scleroderma. He was 35 years old.

Willie was the son of Brenda Gascot and William Robinson; beloved husband of Nicole; proud father of Mia, Sophie, and Carter; and beloved brother of Isabel Jones, William "BJ" Robinson Jr., Kimberly Robinson, Aubrey McQueen, Chance Robinson, and Quay Robinson. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, close friends, and cousins.

Willie, or "Rusty" to friends, was best known for his love of music and his love

of sports. A member of Pennsauken High School's Class of 2004, he was a talented and award-winning drummer. He played in several bands and on stages both big and small. He loved all things sports and enjoyed visiting stadiums around the country to watch the Phillies play. Most of all, he loved his family and friends. He lit up the room with a smile or knew when to lighten the mood with a joke, and his joyful energy will be greatly missed.



Robinson

His viewing was held at the Bradley Funeral Home in Marlton. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Margaret's Church, Infant Jesus Parish, Woodbury Heights. Interment followed at Wenonah Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for Rusty's children's education. Donations via Cashapp can be sent c/o \$nicorob914 or Venmo c/o @nicole-robinson-83; please include "education" in the memo. If sending checks, make them out to Nicole Robinson, P.O. Box 364, Marlton, NJ 08053.

Royalty Nails Moves Into Pennsauken Location

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Royalty Nails has rented a studio at 8192 National Hwy. in Pennsauken, located in the Express Transfer and Trucking facility right behind the Pepsi building. Owner Shamika Boone, a

graduate from Robert Fiance Beauty School and a licensed manicurist in New Jersey, is excited to welcome her clients to the new space.

"At Royalty Nails, we make sure that whether it's a manicure or pedicure, it's done the right way to insure and maintain the health of your nails," said Boone.

In addition to manis and pedis, customers at Royalty Nails can get a variety of services, including eyebrow waxing

and shaping, teeth whitening, and more. All work is done by appointment only, which can be scheduled online at royaltynails36.booksy.com. The business is also looking to hire individuals with cosmetology or manicuring licenses.

For more information, call (856) 882-3080 or email royaltynailsbymika@gmail.com. You can also find Royalty Nails on Instagram @royaltynailsbymika.

Visitors always welcomed! The Bible always opened!

¡Los visitantes siempre son bienvenidos!
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Gospel Meeting - 12noon

Sunday School & Adult Class - 12:30pm

Reunión español - 2:00pm



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CLERKS**CORNER****Application For 2022 Dog Licenses**

By Pam Forman, Acting Township Clerk

Name of Owner _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Cell No. _____ **Number of Dogs at this address** _____**Dog's Name** _____

M/F ___ Dog's Age _____ Breed _____

Length of Dog's Hair (Circle one) **SHORT** **MEDIUM** **LONG**

Color and Markings _____

Altered (Circle one) Yes / No Date _____

Rabies Inoculation Expiration Date _____

As of the first Monday in February, all dog license renewals are late and a \$10 late fee will be assessed.

FEES: \$12 if the dog has been spayed or neutered (altered)/\$15 if not spayed or neutered (altered). Renew by mail: fill out form and enclose a check or money order for the exact amount made payable to the Township of Pennsauken and mail it to Attn: Twp. Clerk's Office, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. Pennsauken, NJ 08110. **Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope and copies for proof of rabies inoculation.** Renew in person between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Township Clerk's office. Any questions please call 856-665-1000 x122.

State regulations consider a dog's vaccination valid only if it DOES NOT expire before Nov. 1 of the current year and failure to obtain or renew a dog license could result in a court summons.

Application For 2022 Cat Licenses

By Pam Forman, Acting Township Clerk

Name of Owner _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Cell No. _____ **Number of Cats at this address** _____**Cat's Name** _____

M/F ___ Cat's Age _____ Breed _____

Length of Cat's Hair (Circle one) **SHORT** **MEDIUM** **LONG**

Color and Markings _____

Altered (Circle one) Yes / No Date _____

Rabies Inoculation Expiration Date _____

As of the first Monday in February, all cat license renewals are late and a \$10 late fee will be assessed.

FEES: \$12 if the cat has been spayed or neutered (altered)/\$15 if not spayed or neutered (altered). Renew by mail: fill out form and enclose a check or money order for the exact amount made payable to the Township of Pennsauken and mail it to Attn: Twp. Clerk's Office, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. Pennsauken, NJ 08110. **Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope and copies for proof of rabies inoculation.** Renew in person between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Township Clerk's office. Any questions please call 856-665-1000 x122.

State regulations consider a cat's vaccination valid only if it DOES NOT expire before Nov. 1 of the current year and failure to obtain or renew a cat license could result in a court summons.

**For advertising rates and information call 662-5100
or email allaroundpenn@aol.com.**

**Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club Holds
Holiday Open Houses** *continued from page 6*

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club is having open houses throughout the holiday season. Located in the basement of Grace Episcopal Church, 7 East Maple Ave., Merchantville, the display features a two-rail, O gauge model railroad, including 4,000 linear feet of track and a reproduction of Philadelphia's 30th Street Station.

The area's largest operating O gauge model railroad display will be open to the public on the following dates:

- Dec. 11 and 12
- Jan. 8 and 9
- Jan. 15 and 16

All open houses run from noon to 3:00 p.m. and are free to attend. Free parking is also available. Grace Church currently requires all visitors to wear a face cov-



Cherry Valley Model Railroad is holding a series of open houses for the holidays.

ering.

For information, contact John P. Dunn Sr. at (609) 432-2871 or jdunn8888@com-

cast.net. You can also follow "Cherry Valley Model Railroad" on Facebook.

Pennsauken Television To Feature Holiday Programming

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken Television will once again be offering special programming for the holidays.

"It's a great time of year to provide some seasonal programming for residents," explains Ryan Wachter, Pennsauken Television. "In addition to highlighting this year's Holiday Parade, Tree Lighting, and Breakfast with Santa, we'll be show-

ing movies that range from holiday classics to true guilty pleasures."

Featured movies include the cartoon, "Santa and the Three Bears," 1935's "Scrooge," and the classic B-Movie disaster, "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians." Each film is in the public domain.

Holiday movies will run on Sundays in December, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Video recaps of Township holiday events

will run throughout the month. In addition, Pennsauken Television's holiday programming will run throughout the day on both Dec. 24 and 25.

Pennsauken Television can be found on Channel 19 for XFINITY customers and Channel 21 on Fios. For more details visit "Pennsauken Television" on Facebook.

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inSports Playoff Time For Pennsauken High School Student Athletes



The Pennsauken Football Indians dominated in all three phases of the game during a 56-21 playoff win versus Central Regional.

By Billy Snyder, Athletic Director, Pennsauken Public Schools

Pennsauken Athletics had five teams qualify for postseason action: Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Girls Soccer, Boys Cross Country, and Football.

The Boys Cross Country team had their first top 10 finish in more than 20 years, with Joel Oquendo finishing 14th overall out of a field of more than 100 competitors. Everyone knows how fast and talented the Track and Field team is; and now Coach Zimmerman has helped expand that program to include distance running.

Post season football returned to Pennsauken for the first time in 10 years, with Pennsauken playing host to Central Regional, who came into the playoffs with a 6-3 record and an undefeated 4-0 record in their conference. The Indians however would not be denied, as they dominated on all three phases of the game. Special teams scored two touchdowns; the defense forced four turnovers; and the offense exploded with big

plays all over the field. At the end, Pennsauken won 56-21. Sophomore quarterback Dante Viccherelli created 200 yards of offense and threw for four touchdowns. Keith Bowles led the defense with 11 tackles and a forced fumble. A big part of the Pennsauken success this year was kicker Sean Rullo, who had been the most consistent point scorer on the team. The "Chad Pierce" Heart and Hustle Award went to defensive stand

out Shane Kenner.

Unfortunately, the Indians met an extremely tough opponent in Millville. While the start of the first quarter looked promising with a pick six from Ejani Shakir, the Thunderbolts won the contest 50-15. While the result isn't what anyone wanted, Coach Tabb made amazing strides with the team this year; and with the youth of this program, this playoff run will hopefully be the first of many to come.

Softball Game Benefits Larsen Family



Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista joined Township Committeeman Vince Martinez last month for the Ken Larsen Memorial Softball Game, sponsored by Merchantville Pennsauken Little League. The mayor threw out the first pitch. Proceeds from the event benefitted Ken's family.

Competitors On The Pitch, Friends Forever



Former Pennsauken youth soccer teammates met again as opponents in the prestigious Rudderow Cup! While Camden Catholic beat Pennsauken 3-0 this year, the friendships these young men have are forever. Pictured from left to right: Will Hatley, Andrew Hatley, Nico Bonilla, Daniel Tellez, Jesus Colin, and Tyrone Eubanks.

Line Drive Academy Opens In Pennsauken



Pennsauken Township Committee members Vince Martinez and Nikki Roberts were on hand for the ribbon cutting for Line Drive Academy. Located at 5811 S Crescent Blvd., the facility offers battling cages, personal/team instruction, and more.

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Lafayette Ave. with the vehicle in garage. I did a job at this house,
and the car was a form of payment. I am trying to obtain the
vehicle's title to claim ownership. I've had the car for 2-1/2 years
but no luck locating the previous owner.

Please get in touch with me at Melly09320@gmail.com.


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Presents

Holiday Remembrance Plus



TREE LIGHTING



Each Family
Receives a
Personalized Gift
To take home in
memory of their
Loved One

Wednesday, December 15th

**Inglesby & Sons
2426 Cove Rd
Pennsauken NJ 08109
856-662-1271**

**Refreshments at 6:30pm
and program begins at 7pm**

Have a Safe Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

2426 Cove Road, Pennsauken • (856) 662-1271 • InglesbyFuneralHome.com

DAVID L. HERNANDEZ, JR., Owner, NJ License No. 4626 • KAREN LAMB, Manager, NJ License No. 5040